

GOVERNMENTAL CALLOUSNESS LETS TUBERCULAR SOLDIERS DIE, WITH NO PLACE TO GO

Charges of Cruel Neglect and
Want Made at Legion
Hearing.

SARANAC IS "TOO IDEAL"

Diseased Ex-Service Men Are
Driven Out, Some to Go
to Their Deaths.

Federal failure to care properly for disabled veterans of the war was shown again yesterday in the testimony of ex-service men at the continuation of the hearings of the American Legion at City Hall.

Federal failure particularly to care for tubercular patients at Saranac Lake, N. Y., where official callousness to the needs and desires of the sick men resulted in many deaths that might have been averted, was testified to by Frederick T. Albright, who declared further that though Saranac Lake was admitted to be an ideal spot for tubercular treatment, Government officials tried to abandon it. Failing in this, he continued, because of the protests of the ex-soldiers who refused to leave, the Government officials then refused to admit more patients because they feared other men "would be coming there by the thousands."

Albright began his testimony by stating that when the first patients went to Saranac in the fall of 1918 there were no Government facilities there at all to care for the soldiers.

"The men were given \$1 a day and had to care for themselves. There was no Public Health Service doctor. The Government became dissatisfied with this because there were no records to show how the men were getting along, and in July, 1920, issued a statement announcing that the 'home sanitarium' would be discontinued July 15 and the 250 men there offered treatment elsewhere. TUBERCULOUS VICTIMS REFUSE TO LEAVE SARANAC.

"One hundred and fifty men, however, refused to go because they considered it the Government's fault that no records were kept. They considered Saranac Lake good for them and they didn't want to go to the pestiferous wilds of New Mexico. Some of them knew they were incurable and didn't want to be far from their families.

"Under the threat to scare the men from Saranac nearly a hundred went to their homes and to Public Health Service hospitals in other places. Later the Government opened fifteen contract cottages, paying the owners for the care of the men. But they would not take back the men who left and are caring only for those who refused to leave.

"There are only sixty-five patients being cared for by the Government now at Saranac Lake, though there are 300 men there needing treatment. Some of these men, lying there sick, need attention.

"Many of the men died after leaving Saranac and others were sent back in their cure because of worry. You know tubercular patients should be kept cheerful."

Albright said he went to Washington last week to see what could be done for the boys at Saranac, and that though he was promised action by one doctor, another told him, he said, that he "wouldn't consent to taking these men in, because if we do men will be coming in by the thousands. It's such an ideal spot."

He added that the Government wished to send the boys to Johnson City, Tenn., where the National Soldier Home has been converted into a tubercular hospital, but that he has learned there are not enough doctors and nurses there to care for the 270 beds in the institution.

Compensation for the boys, he said, is always from one to three months

ago.

USELESS.

Dr. Thomas W. Salmon, a member of the committee sitting in the hearings, of which Cornelius W. Wickerman is Chairman, charged that Federal failure to enter into a contract with the State of New York in depriving the mentally ill soldiers of the State of proper care.

He told of the \$3,000,000 appropriation for the State for a hospital on the condition that the Federal Government enter into a contract to maintain it for the care of the soldiers.

"Fifteen per cent. of the insane ex-service men are in New York," he

said. "Seven hundred and fifty-nine men I know of are being inadequately cared for. There are only 117 beds in supposedly psychopathic wards, which are psychopathic only in the name painted on the doors. The Public Service hasn't specially trained doctors or nurses for these men, and though Washington has had since last September to enter into the agreement which would give the men a fine hospital at Creedmoor, it has done nothing."

"I was told in Washington that this plan, which was suggested in Washington and acted upon by the New York Legislature, out of the sympathy it had for the soldiers, is a Wall Street profiteering plan."

"The Government is now spending about \$2 a day for the care of these soldiers, but in this hospital it would cost but about 80 cents a day and the men would be getting better treatment."

"The only thing needed is a stroke of the pen to make this an actuality. Cold neglect alone prevents it and it will be a reproach to the Government and a reproach to us if we don't bring it to the attention of the proper authorities."

Thomas D. Brown of No. 809 St. John's Place, Brooklyn, a former soldier, who is suffering from lack of circulation in the feet and arms, testified that he has been denied vocational training. He said he has been to four hospitals for treatment, but each "passed the buck" to the others.

"My compensation was cut from \$90 a month to \$22.50 a month because I was discharged from the hospital as cured," he said, "but three days later I had to go back again for treatment. I have been in the Polytechnic now for three months, but my compensation has not been increased."

George La. Bone of Norwood, N. J., who lost one eye through army service and has been told he is gradually losing his other eye, testified

that he is now getting but \$12.50 a month compensation.

"The Government claims I had the defect before I enlisted, but I passed all examinations for eyesight at that time," he said.

MAN WITH NERVOUS DISORDER
PUT WITH RAVING MANIACS.

John Cooney, who said he is being treated at Fox Hills for a mild mental disorder, declared he was being quartered in a bed between two violent patients.

"Saturday they put a dope feed in there with me," he declared. "He had tried to kill a guard the night before. It was a good thing I thought of the fire axes and had them removed or we might have waked up in the morning and found about ten of us killed."

"They're thinking now of sending me to Marion, Ind., but I don't think they ought to. If they do, my nerves are going to get worse." He added that he applied for compensation

some months ago without avail. Samuel Colham of No. 599 Longwood Avenue, Cincinnati, testified that he was ill with a nervous disease and was sent to the Hoboken Hospital near Philadelphia.

"I was locked up in a violent ward June 1, 1920, but the head nurse got me out," he said. "I left there June 27, going to Cincinnati, and when I complained to a Public Health Service office I was ordered out."

"There was a jail next to this hospital and the prisoners used to boister over the fence that they'd rather be in jail for two years than in the hospital for ten days."

James P. Nash of No. 2231 E. 33d Street, Brooklyn, testified that though he has a nervous disability which makes him unfit for his duties, he gets only \$16 a month compensation and all requests for an increase meet with curt refusal.

Edward McLaughlin of No. 48 East 39th Street, Manhattan, who had

been getting, he said, \$146 a month compensation for himself, wife and child, has had his compensation cut to \$9.50 a month because he took twenty-two days treatment at Fox Hills.

"I am entitled to thirty days' treatment without this reduction," he said. "But because I went to the hospital I was transferred from the Vocational Training Board to the War Risk Bureau and I can't get transferred back."

The next hearing will be held next Tuesday at 2 P. M.

M'WHINNEY SLATED FOR FEDERAL JOB

Lockwood Committeeman Who
Flipped May Be Internal
Revenue Collector.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—Assemblyman Thomas A. McWhinney, of Nassau County, who, as Vice Chairman of the Lockwood Housing Committee, first sponsored, then opposed the resolution which would have authorized the committee to probe the savings banks and insurance companies of New York, probably will be appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for the Long Island-Rockland district.

Republican leaders from New York who criticized McWhinney when he dropped from support to opposition of the proposal to broaden the Lockwood Committee's powers were astonished to learn he is virtually slated for the best Federal berth in his county.

Promoters of McWhinney's candidacy say he is certain of appointment. One of his strong backers is Charles D. Hillis, Republican National Committeeman from New York. McWhinney's promoters declare he has been endorsed by "Jake" Livingston, Republican boss of Brooklyn and

has the support of Harry Lee, Suffolk County leader; G. Elmer Donnelly, Nassau County boss; and that Theodore Roosevelt, who is to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy, has spoken in McWhinney's behalf. Lieut. Gov. Jeremiah Wood, who comes from Long Island and in whose nomination last fall McWhinney had a hand, is said to have engineered McWhinney's candidacy. Should he resign from the Legislature to become Internal Revenue Collector much embarrassment would be spared members of the Lockwood Committee, who have expressed themselves as feeling McWhinney should quit the committee because he fought and succeeded in beating the resolution which would have enlarged its powers.

TRIBUTE PAID TO ESCH.
House Republicans and Democrats
Stand and Cheer Retiring Member.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The House paid unusual tribute yesterday to Chairman Esch of the Interstate Commerce Committee, who retires to-morrow after twenty-two years of service. Republicans and Democrats alike stood and cheered the hope expressed by Representative Mann (Rep., Ill.) that Esch be continued in another sphere of Government service.

Mr. Mann had reference to reports that President-elect Harding would appoint Mr. Esch to membership on the Interstate Commerce Commission largely because of the knowledge of railway affairs which he displayed in helping frame the Transportation Act.

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You Are Surely Coming to The Bubble Book Party!

THIS Saturday it's to be in Mother Goose Hall, which has been reserved especially for the Party on Saturday. Last week so many of you came that some had to stand up, and perhaps you didn't see quite all that you wanted to.

But there will be plenty of room for everyone to-morrow, so if you were here last week, come again and bring any of your friends who didn't come before. And if you were not here, then you'll want to know about Little Bo Peep, Jack and Jill, Old King Cole and all the others who came right out of the Bubble Book, while the songs were sung, and about the jolly games they play.

Remember—it's in Mother Goose Hall—7th floor—at 11.15 A. M. and 3 o'clock P. M.

Outfitting the Boy for Easter

"My!" said the boy's mother, "did you ever see a boy who gave his clothes such hard wear?" Boys are like that—all boys who are live and active. So you will appreciate the sturdy fabrics as well as the correct style of these Easter Suits for boys, and rejoice that two pairs of knickerbockers come with each Suit!



Advance Models in Norfolk Suits

The smart colorings, the well-wearing Tweeds and Cheviots will appeal to you, no less than the fine tailoring that rivals the finish of father's grown-up Easter Suit. Coats alpaca lined; knickerbockers full lined. Sizes 8 to 18. Splendid values at

\$16.50 to \$27.50

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Fourth Floor

Sweater Suits Will Be Needed

The wee tot will be needing them for the cold days that are still to come, to keep out the biting March winds. Besides, if you buy one plenty large, enough it will be ready for the first frosty days next Fall.

Brushed wool and knitted suits are here in a charming variety of colors for the 2 to 6 year old. It will be worth while to buy them now, for they have been greatly reduced.

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It's Time to Buy Children's Shoes

Prices have been reduced, you see, so that you can now buy several pairs of shoes without feeling that all your money is turned into leather. Just figure up the price-saving for yourself—that will be enough to convince you.

There are a number of styles of shoes, oxfords, and pumps, in tan calfskin, patent leather and gun-metal.

Boys—sizes 10 to 13½ and 1 to 6, \$5.50

Girls—sizes 2½ to 7.....\$5.75

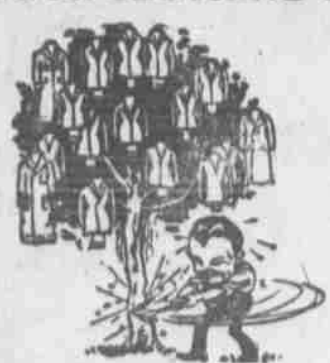
Misses—sizes 11½ to 2.....\$4.75

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Big girls will like these tan oxfords with English heels and broad toes. Sizes 2½ to 7, \$7.00.

Fourth Floor

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